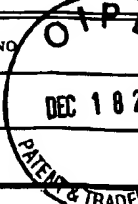


Form PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 30-5004DIV3	SERIAL NO. 09/912,616
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
Jm	AA	6,139,701	10-2000	Pavate et al.	—	—	
Jm	AB	6,113,761	09-2000	Kardokus et al.	—	—	
Jm	AC	US2001/0023726A1	09-2001	Koenigsmann et al.	—	—	
	AD						
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	AH						
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	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	AM						
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	AP						
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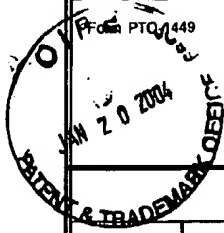
OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			
	AR		
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EXAMINER <i>Jm Min</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>4-15-04</i>
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT Vladimir Segal et al.		<div style="transform: rotate(-15deg); font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">RECEIVED</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-15deg); font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">DEC 23 2003</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-15deg); font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">TC 1700</div>	
				FILING DATE July 24, 2001			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	File Date If Appropriate	
jm	AA	6,454,994	09-2002	Wang	—	—	
	AB						
	AC						
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	AK						
	AL						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
jm	AM	59227992A	12-1984	Japan	—	—	
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
jm	AR		Friedman, "Grain Size Refinement in a Tantalum Ingot", Metallurgical Transactions, Vol. 2 No. 1, January 1971, pages 337-341.				
	AS						
	AT						
EXAMINER <i>Jim Min</i>				DATE CONSIDERED 4-15-04			
<small>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>							

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LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT Vladimir Segal et al.				
				FILING DATE July 24, 2001		GROUP 1742		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
gm	AA	3,497,402	2-1970	Douglass et al.	✓	✓		
	AB							
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	AD							
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
gm	AM	H03-197640 A	08-1991	Japan (Translation of Claims Only)	✓	✓	X	
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
	AR							
	AS							
	AT							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				
gm				4-15-04				
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								